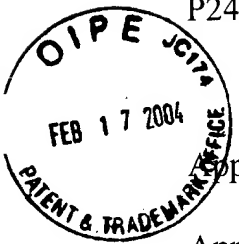


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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Thomas BENTHIEN et al.

Group Art Unit: 1775

Appl. No. : 9/937,464

Examiner: La Villa, Michael E.

Filed : March 24, 2002

For : SILANE-BASED COATING MASS WITH A CATALYTIC,
OXIDATIVE, AND DEODORIZING EFFECT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

RECEIVED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

FEB 25 2004

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97-1.98, Applicants hereby direct the Examiner's attention to the following documents which are cited in the International Search Report for International Application No. PCT/EP00/03020 of which the above-referenced application is a National Stage:

- (1) EP 0 604 919 A1, July 6, 1994;
- (2) EP 0 842 967 A2, May 20, 1998;
- (3) U.S. Patent No. 6,187,426 (Jonschker et al.), February 13, 2001; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (2);
- (4) EP 0 643 014 A1; March 15, 1995;

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- (5) U.S. Patent No. 5,948,398 (Hanamoto et al.), September 7, 1999; Applicants note that this document is a family member of document (4);
- (6) U.S. Patent No. 5,624,667 (Maruo et al.), April 29, 1997;
- (7) EP 0 459 003 A1, December 4, 1991.


Copies of the above-listed documents and of the International Search Report and the International Preliminary Examination Report (in English) for International Application No. PCT/EP00/03020 are enclosed together with a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the next official communication.

Applicants note that an Office Action on the merits has not yet issued in the instant application, and thus, no fee is necessary to ensure consideration of this statement. However, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 19-0089 any fee which may be deemed necessary for the consideration of the submitted materials.

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Should there be any questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,
Thomas BENTHIEN et al.



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Reg. No. 28,394

February 12, 2004
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*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.